

TOWN OF ABINGDON  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 30, 2007 - 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Abingdon Planning Commission was held Monday, May30, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building, downstairs meeting room.

Mr. Gary Kimbrell, Chairman, called the meeting to order. Mr. Jackson called the roll.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Gary Kimbrell, Chairman  
Mr. Gregory W. Kelly  
Mrs. Cathy Lowe  
Dr. Todd Pillion  
Dr. H. Ramsey White, Jr. (Late)

Comprising a quorum of the Commission

Members Absent: Mr. Matthew T. Bundy  
Mr. Kenneth Shuman

Administrative Staff: Mr. W. Garrett Jackson, Director of Planning/Zoning  
Mr. John Dew, Director of Public Services & Construction

Visitors: Mr. C. Robert Weisfeld  
Mr. Ben Hamby  
Ms. April Hamby Crabtree  
Mr. Chuck Robbins

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(2) Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting, April 23, 2007

Mr. Kelly made a motion that the minutes of the regular meeting, April 23, 2007 be approved as presented. Dr. Pillion seconded the motion, with unanimous approval.

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(3) PUBLIC HEARING

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT** - Application to amend and reenact the Town of Abingdon Zoning Ordinance

**Amend Article 8, Section 8-2-3**

The applicant, Mr. C. Robert Weisfeld, was seeking approval to amend Article 8, Old & Historic District uses within Subsection 3, to include "Museums" as a permitted use by right. It is the desire of the applicant to open a museum at 170 East Main Street.

After discussion, Mrs. Lowe made a motion to recommend to Town Council to not allow the rezoning of Section 8-2-3, but to include a Special Use Permit in all the Old and Historic Sub-Districts to allow "Museums" as a Special Use. Dr. Pillion seconded the motion, with unanimous approval.

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- (4) **CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS - Empire Rewards, April Hamby Crabtree, Ben Hamby and Jason Hamby, Owners/Representatives**, 439 East Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; application for Certificate of Appropriateness to add an addition to existing structure **located at 439 East Main Street. Tax Map No. 14 (1) 6.**

This applicant is proposing the addition of 1,800 sq. ft. to the existing office space located at 439 East Main Street. The addition will match the existing structure in color and materials and will add space for up to seven (7) additional personnel.

After review of the application, Town Staff recommended that the proposed addition be approved, with the exception of the proposed parking along Hutton Street. The Public Works Department discouraged parking along streets that requires customers to back into traffic, as indicated in the VDOT Standards Manual. It was suggested that any additional parking needed might be sought by the applicant through an agreement with Farris Funeral Home.

After discussion, Mrs. Lowe made a motion to approve the proposed addition, with new parking area to be located on Plum Alley side of structure only, but not allow parking on the Hutton Street side. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion, with unanimous approval.

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- (5) **CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS - People, Incorporated of Southwest Virginia, Robert Goldsmith, Representative (United Way)**, 1173 West Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; application for Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to change two panels in an approved sign from green and white to multi-colored, **located at 1173 West Main Street. Tax Map No. 104 (A) 42.**

This is a request for approval to replace the previously approved colors of green and white for the tenant sign (United Way) be waived to allow a multi-color sign face.

A Certificate of Appropriateness for United Way discussed at the April 23, 2007 meeting was denied approval, therefore, People, Incorporated, who owns the tenant sign in question is requesting the previous decision of their sign color be overturned to allow multi-color sign face, such as the WorkForce VA sign, currently in place.

After discussion, Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the application as presented. Mrs. Lowe seconded the motion, with unanimous approval.

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- (6) **Old Business – Abingdon Pediatric Dentistry**

At the April 23, 2007 meeting, the Planning Commission voted to allow Mr. Kelly, Mr. Kimbrell and Mr. Jackson to review the Abingdon Pediatric Dentistry signage, when it was returned with modifications. By communication through e-mail, the changes which were presented were reviewed and it was asked that the applicant approach the Board of Zoning Appeals. The applicant, without having approached the Board of Zoning Appeals, erected the sign.

Mr. Jackson advised that after speaking with a Land Use Attorney in Albermarle County, it seems that the Entrance Corridor Ordinance does not strongly specify language that would prevent the applicant from installing a sign, as long as it meets the sign area regulations, which this does. The sign in place looks much better than was visualized and is not very noticeable. Mr. Jackson further advised that the applicant agreed to pay a fine, if one is imposed, for not following the correct procedure.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Gary Kimbrell, Chairman

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Gregory W. Kelly, Secretary